

interest, although the plates are hardly as likely to attract attention as those contained in the first two numbers.

The first picture is an uncoloured lithograph, showing the appearance of a bony node of the arm, caused by inherited syphilis, and the history of the case is recorded in evidence of the accuracy of the diagnosis.

The next plate, or No. X. of the series, is a representation of cheiro-pompholyx, dependent upon disturbed nervous action, which appeared to have its origin in indigestion. While using the term pompholyx Mr. Hutchinson does not regard the case depicted, as in any way allied to true pemphigus.

In the letter press explanatory of plate No. XI., it is assumed, and to us it appears like only assumption, that the diseased teeth represented, owed their depraved condition to the use of mercury during infancy. Our experience has taught us that children are very rarely salivated, and we do not think Mr. Hutchinson makes out a clear case. The plate is, however, valuable, as showing the difference between the notched teeth of inherited syphilis, and teeth in which the enamel is diseased from other causes.

Plate XII. shows the post-mortem appearances of cases of chronic rheumatic arthritis. It is but rarely that the surgeon has an opportunity of examining the small joints which are most commonly affected by this disorder. The appearances represented are peculiar and possess value, although they do not aid in clearing up a doubtful diagnosis as so many of these illustrations do.

From the rapidity with which the numbers of this work follow each other, we should suppose that the publishers of them were meeting with the success which their enterprise deserves. As in the former parts, the execution is unexceptionable, and we anticipate a large demand for the work. S. A.

---

ART. XLV.—*Inhalation in the Treatment of Disease; its Therapeutics and Practice. A Treatise on the Inhalation of Gases, Vapours, Fumes, Compressed and Rarefied Air, Nebulized Fluids, and Powders.* By J. SOLIS COHEN, M.D., Lecturer on Laryngoscopy and Diseases of Throat and Chest, in Jefferson Medical College. Second Edition, revised and enlarged. 12mo. pp. 392. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston, 1876.

WHAT strikes one particularly in each of the many contributions made by Dr. Cohen to the medical literature of the branch of study in which he has become so well known, is the candid spirit and thoroughness with which his investigations have been conducted. Of this we are cognizant already by the perusal of, and frequent reference to, his work on Diseases of the Throat; his exhaustive treatise on Croup, in its relations to Tracheotomy, and many scattered articles from his pen. In the first edition of his book on Inhalation, its Therapeutics and Practice, these qualities are no less conspicuous than in his other works. Hitherto there has been an objection, however, to his publications. They usually lack order. And this is especially true of his descriptions of disease.

Complete as they may be, more method is at times desirable. In the perusal of his voluminous treatise upon Throat Affections, this deficiency is apparent even to the casual reader. Much of personal experience, and numerous collated facts are there recorded; but both are badly co-ordinated, and under one heading we are apt to find passages, which properly belong under another. We are glad to note that this short-coming is to a considerable degree remedied

in the present edition of Dr. Cohen's work on Inhalation. In its general arrangement, there is a marked improvement upon that of 1867. More method, the fruit of careful revision, is evident in the subdivisions of separate chapters. In one instance the order of parts is inverted, viz.: inhalation of nebulized fluids now occupies Part II. and not Part I., as in the first edition, and an additional part is made under the title of medicated atmospheres. Part I., in which the inhalation of airs, gases, vapours, and fumes is considered, is much augmented in its context, and new illustrations are interposed here and there. The drawings of apparatus are well executed and increase the practical character of the work. That portion of it which relates to the physiology and therapeutic uses of condensed and rarefied air, is almost entirely new, and is now one of the most important chapters of the volume. It contains the results, acquired within a few years in this department, by scientists in Germany and elsewhere. The apparatus of Waldenburg, of Biedert, of Fränkel, and still others—are accurately described.

Their employment in the treatment of certain affections of the thoracic viscera is presented. But while the laws of the pneumatic method are made known with completeness, their rational application to the cure of disease is not given with sufficient details. When more fully understood and accepted, we anticipate many good results from this treatment in well-adapted cases. Meanwhile it is a source of congratulation to have this subject treated of at some length in an American work by an author of merit. With respect to the manner of inhaling, Dr. Cohen is emphatic in his recommendation that it should be well done, if done at all. When, for example, by an effort of suction a medicated vapour fills the mouth, it is essential to make a strong inspiratory effort immediately afterwards, so that with the entrance of air the vapour may be drawn far into the lungs. With debilitated patients it may be necessary to employ the force of compressed air from suitable apparatus. To an imperfect manner of inhaling is often attributable the poor results achieved by this treatment. In the inhalation of the vapour of water, the ethereal volatile oils, or the decoction of aromatic plants, the temperature of the vehicle should be moderate. When it ranges from 110 to 120° Fabr., it is usually sufficient, and a great mistake is to have the water from which vapour rises too hot.

In this we fully agree with Dr. Cohen, inasmuch as we have learned to consider too hot inhalations a not infrequent cause of inflammatory disorders of pulmonary structure.

In speaking of his own experience in membranous croup with inhalation of the hot vapour from slaking lime, Dr. Cohen writes that, "in some dozens of cases, in private and in consultation practice, he has seen life apparently rescued through its agency." And he adds that, "of all the methods of treating croup advanced of late years, he knows of no other that has held its ground so well as this." Parts II. and III. are mainly a reprint from the first edition of the work, and we have not found there matter for new discussion.

Upon the subject of medicated atmospheres Dr. Cohen is brief. Nevertheless he evidently attaches much importance to "respiratory diet" in the treatment of certain cases of phthisis and chronic bronchitis, and his plan by which it may be utilized at home is worthy of trial by others.

In conclusion, we commend this work to those who desire to possess a thorough insight of what pertains to the science and art of inhalation in all its varieties.

B. R.